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DDI-1455-75

30 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, DDI Executive Staff

SUBJECT : Security Classification Act of 1975

1. Attached are two sets of views on the draft Security Classification Act of 1975, as you requested in your 21 May note.

25X1 2. To sum up, the draft is a catastrophe. On the whole, appreciations, appraisals, estimates, situation reports, IMs, IRs, [redacted] etc., are not classifiable under the criteria provided. Thus the DDI product doesn't really get any protection at all unless it is highly specific regarding one of the criteria for classification.

25X1 3. The declassification schedule is impossible. The example that comes first to mind for CRS is that it will eliminate the [redacted]

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted] Under these rules, consequently, we would have to abandon the Program. The time frames provided are simply too short, probably by an order of magnitude-- 30, 20 and 10 years would make a helluva lot more sense than 3, 2 and 1 years. But even here, [redacted] 25X1
frame is too short.

4. The administrative burden of this law will be god-awful. CRS would have to have, I would guess, on the order of 100 additional clerks for the transition period while that material from prior years is downgraded in accordance with the law and at least 20 on a permanent basis. Even so, keeping up with the classification of any given document at any point in time would

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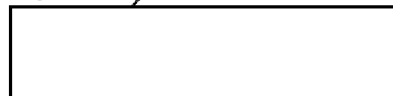
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SUBJECT: Security Classification Act of 1975

~~be such an involved process that we would have to throw out microfilm and go back to paper. There is no way known to me to handle the rapid volume of change that would have to occur in microfilm format. We'd be driven up a wall!~~

5. ~~The Commission is a total catastrophe, except that I'd like a job on it if it is formed because I can't think of anything that would give me more spare time, with more income, and more useless work to do. One of the specific duties of the Commission written into the Bill is the requirement that no government official may withhold or authorize withholding of classified information from Congress--what protection for DDI product?~~

6. The Bill, consequently, should be resisted with all possible resources. In my view, it is drafted by someone who doesn't want intelligence or a military establishment or very effective law enforcement. It was clearly drafted by somebody who doesn't know anything about intelligence.



W. C. EISENBEISS
Director, Central Reference Service

STAT

Attachments:
As stated

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DATE: 2 June 1975

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Comments on the Security Classification
Act of 1975

REMARKS:

The provisions of subsection (e) (8) while cumbersome should provide protection to DDI information if applied judiciously, recognizing that the exceptions applied in (e) (8) may be challenged in (e) (9).

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DATE: 2 June 1975

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Security Classification Act of 1975

REMARKS:

1. The process outlined seems excessively burdensome and arbitrary, especially with regard to the downgrading and declassifying procedures.

2. With regard to COMINT, I believe the procedures, while burdensome, will afford adequate protection to the source.

ACTION